

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121:

On page 1, prior to line 1, please insert the following heading on a separate line:

Field of Invention

On page 1, prior to line 9, please insert the following heading on a separate line:

Background of Invention

On page 2, prior to line 13, please insert the following beginning on a separate line:

Brief Description of Drawings

Figure 1 depicts a graph of the percentage of cells stained in fish of compound (1) in relation to positive and negative controls.

Figure 2 depicts the placement of electrodes around an osmotic minipump used for the administration of compound (1).

Figure 3 depicts a graph of hearing loss with respect to frequency after acoustic trauma and protection with compound (1).

Figure 4 depicts Histological data of acoustic trauma (A) and compound (1) and acoustic trauma (B).

Figure 5A depicts Fodrin Breakdown products 48 hours after acoustic trauma.

Figure 5B depicts Fodrin Breakdown products 48 hours after acoustic trauma and application of compound (1).

Figure 6A depicts fragmentation of DNA quantified by the TUNEL method 48 hours after acoustic trauma.

Figure 6B depicts fragmentation of DNA quantified by the TUNEL method 48 hours after acoustic trauma and application of compound (1).

Figure 7A depicts the release of Cytochrome C into cytoplasm 1 hour after acoustic trauma.

Figure 7B depicts the release of Cytochrome C into cytoplasm 1 hour after acoustic trauma and application of compound (1).

Figure 8 depicts the determination of the effective dose of compound (1) allowing 50% recovery of hearing loss after trauma.

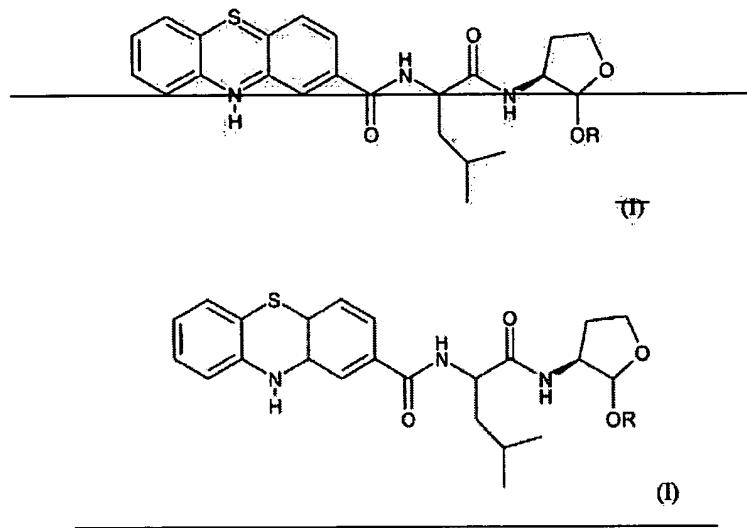
Figure 9 depicts the percentage of recovery versus time from trauma after administration of compound (1).

On page 1, after the above paragraph, please insert the following heading on a separate line

Detailed Description of the Invention

On page 2, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 13 and ending on page 3, line 4 with the following paragraph:

The subject of the invention is therefore the use of a heterocyclic derivative which corresponds to the formula (I)



in the form of diastereoisomers or any combinations of these forms,

in which R represents the hydrogen atom, a (C₁-C₆)alkyl, arylalkyl or -C(O)R' radical

in which R' represents a heterocycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆) alkyl, aryl or aralkyl radical;

the alkyl, aryl or heterocycloalkyl radicals being optionally substituted by one or more identical

or different substituents chosen from: (C₁-C₆) alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆) alkoxy, nitro, cyano,

halogen or -NR₁R₂;

R₁ and R₂ represent, independently, a hydrogen atom or an (C₁-C₆)alkyl radical, or R₁ and R₂

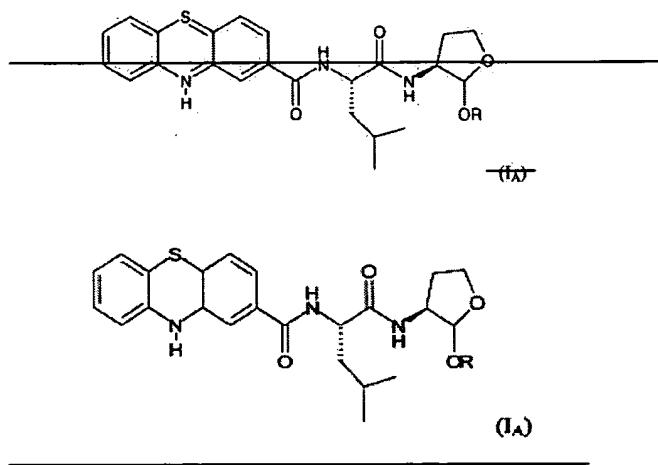
form together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached an optionally substituted

heterocycle,

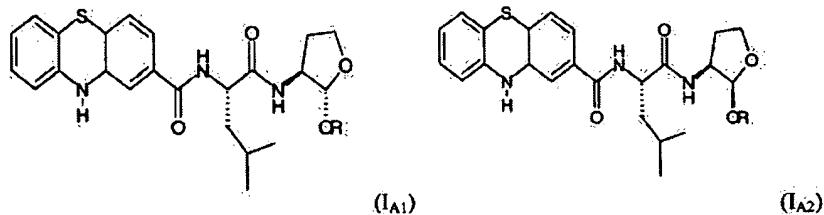
for the preparation of a medicament intended to prevent and/or treat hearing loss.

On page 4, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 24 and ending on page 6, line 2 with the following paragraph:

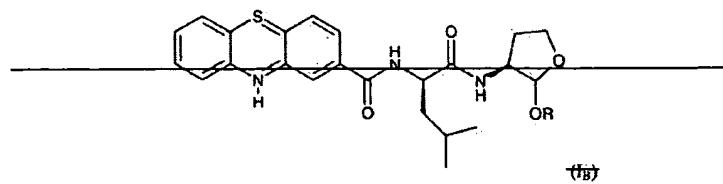
Also very preferably, the compound (1) as defined above has the formula

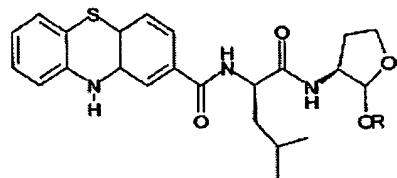


and more particularly one of the following formula

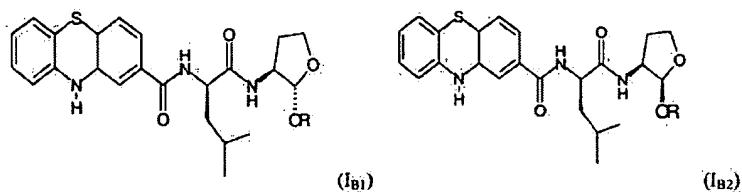


Also very preferably, the compound (1) as defined above has the formula





and more particularly



The compounds as defined above are protective agents combining antioxidant and anti-calpain effects and described in the application WO 01/32654.